

MINUTES

January 15, 2009

SITE: North Dale Recreation Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carrie Wasley, Betsy Mowry, Jonathan Carter, Therese Kelly, Paul Middleton, Erick Goodlow, Thomas Kayser

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wendy Moylan (excused), Peter Phia Pha (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Hahm, Tom Russell, Kathy Korum, Rich Lallier, Jody Martinez, Susie Exner, Nou Chang

VISITORS: Deputy Mayor Ann Mulholland, Dan Corley, Eric Anderson, Jan Carr, Chai Insook

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Meeting was called by Commissioner Chair **Carrie Wasley** at **6:30 p.m.**
- b. The agenda was approved by **Commissioner Therese Kelly** and 2nd by **Commissioner Paul Middleton**.
- c. The minutes from the December meeting were approved by **Commissioner Paul Middleton** and 2nd by **Commissioner Therese Kelly**.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. **Mayor Coleman and Council Members – “Parks and Recreation 2009 and Beyond”**
Deputy Mayor Ann Muholland visited with the Park Commissioners. Deputy Mayor Mulholland spoke of the great things that Parks and Recreation is doing.

3. STAFF REPORTS

A. 2008 Year in Review – Mike Hahm

Mike reviewed various accomplishments of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation in 2008.

B. Planning and Finance Update – Tom Russell

- Develop and Implement Updated Marketing, Community Relations & Public Information Plan
- Develop the Parks Facility Master Plan
- Reorganization of the Parks Management duties and responsibilities

C. Special Services Section Update – Tom Russell

- Rejuvenate and retool the golf program
- Redevelop and assess the use of Midway Stadium and develop a plan for the continued operation of a Municipal Stadium in Saint Paul.
- Develop the next phases of improvements to Harriet Island.

D. Recreation Services Section Update – Kathy Korum

- Re-directing resources to provide quality recreation programs for the citizens of Saint Paul
- Staff development and succession planning
- Develop and implement a performance management system that demands higher levels of accountability for programmers, facility managers and supervisors

E. Operations Section Update – Rich Lallier

- The utilization of maintenance funding to support special events and partnership programs.
- The anticipated budget reductions will require us to refocus resources. This reduction in resources will need to be accompanied with corresponding reduction in services.
- The growing demand and necessity to become a leading steward in environmental sustainability.

F. Design and Construction Update – Jody Martinez

- Provide a General Fund design allocation to cover cost of non-funded projects & annual grant preparation/administration.
- Enforcement and awareness of the Parkland Diversion policy and parkland encroachment issues are on the rise. A consistent process to resolve these issues and a method for enforcement are needed.
- The City continues to promote the National Great River Park project, a multi-phased, multi-year initiative, as a key priority.

G. Como Campus Update – Susie Exner

- Como Circulator will begin service in some capacity the summer of 2009.
- Supporting Capital Campaign: Como Friends will embark upon a multi-million dollar campaign for projects expected to benefit Polar Bear, Gorilla, Bonsai and Japanese Garden exhibits and related education programs.
- Polar Bear Odyssey continues to progress on budget and on schedule. The exhibit A Japanese Garden Experience advances forward.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution 09-01: Dog Park Committee Membership

Motion by **Commissioner Therese Kelly**, 2nd by **Commissioner Paul Middleton**. Vote was 5 to 0 with 4 commissioners absent. 2 of the 4 commissioners absent arrived shortly after the voting.

5. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

a. Official Commission Photo

Post-poned for next month because not all members were present.

b. Review Commission Work Plan 2009

Will review the Work Plan for February meeting

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Introduction of 2009-2013 Strategic Plan

Handed out at meeting

7. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

Bicycle – Commissioner Carter: Attended first meeting.

Como Pool – Commissioner Kelly: Attended informational meeting and discussed options for the new Como pool.

Dog Parks – Commissioner Mowry: Committee created and approved with the first meeting to take place in February.

Pathways – Commissioner Kelly: Meeting will begin shortly.

Second Shift – Commissioner Mowry: Meetings are active and moving forward.

Trees – Commissioner Goodlow: First meeting was informational. Second meeting consisted of agenda setting, structure agreement, and nomination of chair and co-chair.

Blooming St Paul – Commissioner Middleton: Reviewed policies of where beautification is allowed.

As needed – Commissioner Chair Wasley: Will look into policy if there is age limitation to join any committee board.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Commissioner Therese Kelly** and 2nd by **Commissioner Erick Goodlow** to adjourn at **8:50 p.m.**